

Kentucky Higher Education
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and
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COUNSELOR CONNECTION

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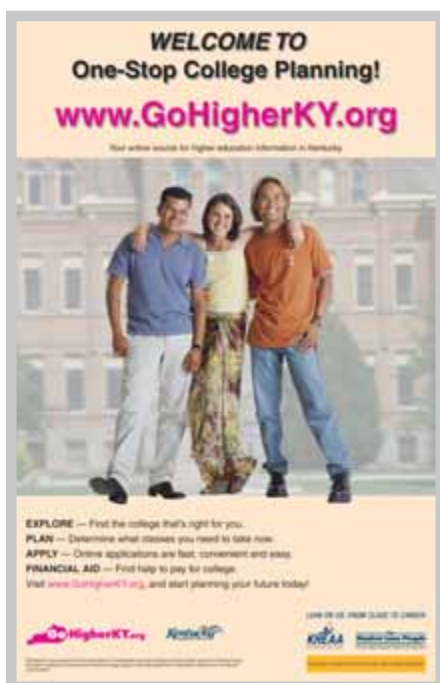
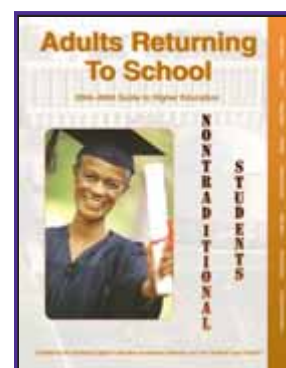
HIGH SCHOOL

The 2004–2005 *Adults Returning to School* Has Arrived

KHEAA and The Student Loan Peoplesm are proud to announce the 2004–2005 *Adults Returning to School* (ARTS) has arrived. A copy is included with this *Counselor Connection*.

This valuable resource contains much of the same information as *Getting In*, as well as additional material that's geared to the nontraditional student.

A poster was included with the December *Counselor Connection*. Please display this so parents and other nontraditional students who visit your school will be encouraged to request information as to how to return to school and get their college degree.



GoHigherKY.org Poster

Kentucky students can now check out most college information at one easy stop. By going to GoHigherKY.org, they can explore Kentucky schools, enter their preference of enrollment size, student-to-faculty ratio, costs and other criteria to get the best college fit.

GoHigherKY.org is a guide through the entire college preparation experience, from early planning, selection, application and admissions to financial aid. The site will give students an estimate of their financial aid eligibility and will automatically fill in the online Free Application for Federal Student Aid with their information. Personal data is encrypted to ensure confidentiality.

Included with this issue is the GoHigherKY.org poster. Please display this in a prominent place. Encourage your students to sign up for their “My Go Higher” account online.





College Goal SundaySM 2005 Reminder

Please make sure your students are aware of all locations in your area. College Goal Sunday is February 27. Students should arrive by 2 p.m.

Ashland

Ashland Community and
Technical College
J.B. Sowards Theatre
1400 College Drive

Bowling Green

Western Kentucky University
Downing University Center,
Room 226
1 Big Red Way

Campbellsville

Campbellsville University
Student Union Building,
Little Auditorium
1 University Drive

Crestview Hills

Thomas More College
Seiler Commons,
Administration Building
333 Thomas More Parkway

Crestwood

South Oldham High School Cafeteria
5900 South Highway 329

Elizabethtown

Elizabethtown Community and
Technical College
Central Regional Postsecondary
Education Center, Room 505
610 College Street Road

Frankfort

Kentucky Higher Education
Assistance Authority (KHEAA)
Paul P. Borden Conference Room
100 Airport Road

Hazard

Hazard Community and
Technical College
Student Center, Cafeteria
One Community College Drive

Hopkinsville

Hopkinsville Community College
Auditorium Gallery
720 North Drive

Lexington

Lexington Community College
230 Oswald Building
Cooper Drive

Louisville

Male High School Auditorium
and Gheens Center (attached)
4425 Preston Highway

St. Stephens Church
1008 South 15 Street

Madisonville

Madisonville Community College
Byrnes Auditorium, Hatley Building
750 North Laffoon Street

Morehead

Morehead State University
Crager Room
Third Floor Adron Doran
University Center
University Boulevard

Owensboro

Kentucky Wesleyan College
Winchester Center, Rodgers Hall
3000 Frederica Street



Paducah

West Kentucky Community and
Technical College
Crounse Hall, Room 101
4810 Alben Barkley Drive

Prestonsburg

Big Sandy Community and
Technical College
Johnson Building, Room 102
One Bert T. Combs Drive

Richmond

Eastern Kentucky University
Student Services Center
Park Drive

Somerset

Somerset Community College
Cafeteria, Student Commons
808 Monticello Street

KHEAA and The Student Loan PeopleSM publish the *Counselor Connection* to share information about student financial aid, college preparation and college planning. Comments and suggestions are always welcome. Please send them to publications@kheaa.com.



KHEAA's Website Changes with Zip Access

When you visit www.kheaa.com, you'll notice a change to our home page. **Zip Access** replaces the old "Access your Account" feature as our newest innovation for providing better access to student award and scholarship information. The switch to **Zip Access** also lets KHEAA provide more security for student account information accessed through our website.

The home page will now display a log-in link to Zip Access as shown in the illustration. Students will be asked to create an account when they first log in to Zip Access. KEES district coordinators can access the **KEES Student File Maintenance** feature by logging in with the user ID and password they already have. High school counselors and administrators who need to view KEES account information for their students should contact Becky Gilpatrick, KEES Program Coordinator, at rgilpatrick@kheaa.com or 800.928.8926, extension 7394 for a user ID and password.



KEES Training Scheduled for March

KHEAA, the Kentucky Department of Education, and the Council on Postsecondary Education will provide training on the KEES program for district coordinators and high school counselors on Thursday, March 10, at the Marriott Griffin Gate in Lexington. The KEES training is being offered in conjunction with the Kentucky School Counselors Association Conference. This year's training opportunity will be formatted a little differently than in the past. We will have two training sessions. The first session will be geared towards administrators with three or fewer years experience with the KEES program. This session will go over the basics of the KEES program and such topics as the KEES curriculum requirements, the KEES grading scale, how to report yearly grades, and the roles of the three agencies in administering KEES.

The second session will be a more in-depth look at KEES and will include topics such as citizenship and residency requirements, working your KEES reporting errors, KEES for home school students and GED recipients, legislative update, and a demonstration of KHEAA's new **Zip Access** feature. This session is recommended for *all administrators* regardless of experience level with the program.

The first session will begin at 2 p.m., the second at 3:30. To register, please contact Michelle Sutherland at 502.564.5279 or msutherl@kde.state.ky.us.



Be in the Know with *KEESConnection*

KHEAA is composing an e-mail address list of counselors and KEES coordinators who would like to receive periodic updates and other important information on the KEES program. If you would like to be included in our *KEESConnection* list serve, please contact Becky Gilpatrick at rgilpatrick@kheaa.com or 800.928.8926, extension 7394.

GoHigherKY Training Offers EILA Hours

KHEAA has received approval from the Kentucky Department of Education to offer Educational Instructional Leadership Act hours to participants of our GoHigherKY.org training. The training will provide an overview of the site and in-depth training on the site's Counselor Center. The schedule will be posted on the KDE Professional Development/Training Opportunities Bulletin Board when it is finalized.

Changes Proposed for Federal Aid

On December 23, the U.S. Department of Education announced a 2 percent reduction in the state and local tax allowance for FAFSA filers effective for the 2005–2006 academic year. The change will result in some Kentucky students losing a portion of the Pell Grants they received the prior year, assuming no change in their financial status. Other students will lose their eligibility for Pell awards completely. The total projected financial impact is a \$1 million reduction in Pell Grants for Kentucky students.

As of January 3, more than 172,300 students planning to attend Kentucky colleges had filed FAFSAs for the 2004–2005 academic year. An analysis of those FAFSAs indicates that about 15,600 of the applicants would receive reduced Pell awards under the new criterion. Nearly 600 would no longer be eligible to receive a Pell Grant. These students would also lose eligibility for Kentucky's CAP Grant.

President Bush's FY 2006 budget proposal calls for increasing the maximum Pell award by \$100 a year over the next five years, up to \$4,500; reducing student loan subsidies and program costs; and make permanent the expanded loan forgiveness for math, science and special education teachers that was passed last year.

Source: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases>: "Strengthening Higher Education for a Successful Workforce," January 14, 2005.

LEAN ON US, FROM CLASS TO CAREER.

